

effective dose of a CTLA-4 blocking agent characterized as specifically binding to the extracellular domain of CTLA-4 and inhibitory of CTLA-4 signaling;

wherein said dose is effective to increase the response of said mammalian T cell to said self antigen.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein said first immune response stimulating agent comprises a self antigen preparation.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises a tumor vaccine comprising irradiated tumor cells.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein said irradiated tumor cells comprise cytokine-transduced tumor cells.

17. The method of Claim 14, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises tumor cell lysates.

18. The method of Claim 14, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises purified protein.

19. The method of Claim 13, wherein said mammalian T cell, said first immune response stimulating agent and said CTLA-4 blocking agent are further combined with a second immune response stimulating agent either simultaneously or sequentially.

20. The method of Claim 13, wherein said mammalian T cell is an autoreactive mammalian T cell.

21. ~~A method for inhibiting the growth of non-T cell tumor cells in a mammalian host, the method comprising:~~

contacting at least one T cell of said host with a first immune response stimulating agent and a CTLA-4 blocking agent characterized as specifically binding to the extracellular domain of CTLA-4 and inhibitory of CTLA-4 signaling;

~~wherein said contacting is effective to inhibit the growth of non-T cell tumor cells in said host.~~

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein said first immune response stimulating agent comprises a self antigen preparation.

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C2 23. ~~The method of Claim 22, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises a tumor vaccine.~~

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein said tumor vaccine comprises cytokine-transduced tumor cells.

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ut 25. The method of Claim 22, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises tumor cell lysates.

26. ~~The method of Claim 22, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises purified protein.~~

27. The method of Claim 21, wherein said contacting step comprises administering said first immune response stimulating agent and said CTLA-4 blocking agent to said mammalian host ~~either simultaneously or sequentially.~~

28. The method of Claim 21, wherein said contacting step occurs *ex vivo* and said at least one T cell is then administered to said host.

29. The method of Claim 21, wherein said first immune response stimulating agent comprises dead or dying tumor cells.

30. The method of Claim 30, wherein said dead or dying tumor cells are produced by contacting tumor cells with a chemotherapeutic agent *ex vivo* or *in vivo*.

31. The method of Claim 21, comprising contacting said mammalian T cell with a second immune response stimulating agent either simultaneously or sequentially.

32. A method for inhibiting the growth of poorly-immunogenic or non-immunogenic non-T cell tumor cells in a host, the method comprising:
contacting a mammalian T cell of said host with a self antigen preparation and a CTLA-4 blocking agent characterized as specifically binding to the extracellular domain of CTLA-4 and inhibitory of CTLA-4 signaling;
wherein said contacting is effective to inhibit the growth of poorly-immunogenic or non-immunogenic non-T cell tumor cells in said mammalian host.

Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact the undersigned with any questions or concerns, whether by telephone at (415) 781-1989 or by fax at (415) 398-3249. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension fees, to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Order No. A-68668/RFT/TAL).

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